GEORGE EASTMAN MUSEUM

USING A VIEWFINDER

A viewfinder assists a maker in framing the composition of a photograph. It allows the maker to view the elements of art – line, shape, color, form, and texture—within the frame.

The **composition** of a photograph also considers **light** and **shadow**, **focus**, **space**, and **value**, which is a **range** of **tones**.

Play with the distance of the viewfinder: Extend your arm to select the image or hold the viewfinder closer to your eye.

What happens when the viewfinder is closer to your eye?

Move the viewfinder up and down, from left to right.

What is selected to be in the frame?

The principles of design explore how the art elements in the frame are arranged.

In photography, the **camera angle** is the vantage point from which the photograph is taken.

Additional design principles could include **balance**, **emphasis**, **variety**, **contrast**, **repetition**, and **movement**.

